



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hans NUSSKERN, et al

Application No. 09/743,738

Confirmation No. 7535

Filed: January 16, 2001

For: MECHANICAL CONNECTING
ELEMENT

Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: Ernesto Garcia

Atty. Docket No.: 39129-183650

Customer No.

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

22/Jan 10
LA
2-5-04

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

RECEIVED

FEB 03 2004

GROUP 3600

In response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.